

REMARKS

The indication that claim 7 is allowed, and that claim 4 is objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged.

Applicants also note that the Examiner has objected to claims 1, 5 and 7 regarding the limitation "the magnetic head" and in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, "the magnetic head" has been changed to "the magnetic disk", where appropriate.

By the present amendment, objected to claim 4 has been written in independent form incorporating the features of parent claim 1 therein, while overcoming the objection to claim 1, as noted by the Examiner, noting that for consistency purposes, "said" has been changed to "the" throughout. Thus, applicants submit that claim 4, written in independent form, should now be in condition for allowance.

With respect to allowed claim 7, in light of the objection noted, as indicated above, claim 7 has been amended to utilize the limitation "the magnetic disk" where appropriate, and again, claim 7 has been amended to utilize "the" in place of "said". Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 7 remains in condition for allowance.

By the above amendment, for consistency purposes, the abstract has been amended to also more appropriately refer to "the magnetic disk".

As to the rejection of claims 1-3 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Belser (U.S. 6,643,082), this rejection is considered to be obviated by the cancellation of the aforementioned claims. Accordingly, discussion of the cited art is considered unnecessary.

By the above amendment, claims 4 and 7 which should now be in condition for allowance, remain in this application and applicants therefore request issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.41053X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melvin Kraus", is written over a horizontal line.

Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

MK/cee
(703) 312-6600